

SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

Thursday, September 15, 2016

Present: Kathy Bagley, Kathi Liberman, Christine Taylor, Tony Martino, Joe Mehan, Claire Mehan, Lisa Galipo, Jill Livingston from Ellis Manor

Absent: Agnes Bolasevich, Barbara Higbee, Henry Higbee

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 pm.

Minutes: A motion was made by Claire Mehan and 2nd by Christine Taylor to approve the minutes from the April, 2016 meeting.

Old Business:

- **Financial Update:** Lisa Galipo reported:
 - There was an ending balance of approximately \$30 in the SCAC account at the end of the fiscal year in June, 2016. Final debits from the account were for gift cards and supplies for the spring event, purchase of a punch bowl and June's Rare Reminder ad. Lisa noted that the Town Clerk's office paid in full for the Infoshred truck at the spring event.
 - Lisa inquired if the committee would once again contribute \$1400 towards Rare Reminder ads for the Senior Center. The Committee agreed to contribute this amount and re-evaluate this expense as the fiscal year proceeds and it is determined what funds will be needed for next year's spring event.

New Business:

- **Spring Event:** Joe Mehan offered a suggestion for the upcoming spring event. He suggested an event entitled "Spring Cleaning" that would include opportunities for seniors to dispose of things including medication, clothing, shredding paperwork, and electronic recycling. Kathy Bagley suggested using high school volunteers to assist with the event.

Committee Reports:

- **Council Liaison:** Tony Martino reported:
 - The Town Council passed a budget since our last meeting. They tried to hold to a zero increase over last year but several factors required a small increase including the Governor's budget which cut town revenue by \$1.3million, the second phase of the high school renovations, and increased MDC charges. The Board of Ed was kept to a .4% increase and no new staff was approved for the Town.
 - Discussions with the Mayor have already begun regarding next year's budget.
 - The high school renovations are largely complete with the exception of the pool due to a find of asbestos there. The goal is to have the building and pool done by the end of October with the exception of punch list items.
 - An anticipated expense in 2018 will be new above ground tanks and remediation of the underground tanks at Physical Services as mandated by DEEP. The Council hopes to use some contingency money that was not used for snow removal last year for this purpose.
- **Wethersfield Housing Authority:** Kathi Liberman reported
 - Renovations to the family units are almost complete.

- The 50 units at Lancaster Road will be renovated starting the end of September.
- Elderly Services Coordinator/Municipal Agent: Chris Taylor reported
 - The Rent Rebate program ends 9/30.
 - Operation Fuel ends 10/31 for electric and gas customers. There are funds left.
 - The Energy Blitz for oil customers is scheduled for 10/19 from 10:30a-2p. And the energy outreach schedule to housing sites has been set.
 - The United Methodist Army program serviced 30 households in July.
 - The Health District has distributed the flu shot clinic schedule.
 - Reviewed a summary of the recent legislative session.
 - Mission of Mercy dental clinic is offering free dental care at the XL Center on 9/16 & 17.
 - The veterans standdown will be held on Friday, 9/23.
 - The State's website Ready CT offers an emergency preparedness app.
- People with Disabilities: Chris Taylor reported:
 - The Summer Picnic in July was well attended.
- Senior Center Activities: Lisa Galipo reported:
 - Reviewed September newsletter including new programs being offered. She noted a significant growth in programs and the need for more space for the Senior Center.

Kathy Bagley reported that the Mayor's Charity Ball in June raised \$16,000 for the Town's food pantry and funding for a program providing weekend meals for students. The S&YS Dept finished a school supply drive in August and is gearing up for their holiday programs. Kathi Liberman commented on the increased number of users of mobile foodshare. Kathy Bagley noted that the Hunger Action Team and Foodshare has helped get the word out about the Town's food programs.

The next SCAC meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2016 at 3:00 pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Joe Mehan, 2nd by Kathy Bagley. The meeting was adjourned at 4p.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Galipo